

3D AVENUE'S BIG BID WON.

KINGSBIDGE FRANCHISE SOLD AT A TREMENDOUS PREMIUM.

850,000 Cash and 85% Per Cent. of the Gross Receipts Over and Above the Statutory Minimum—Metropolitan Traction Under Another Name Ran Up the Bidding Until Mr. Lantier's Persevered.

The Kingsbridge route franchise, over which the Metropolitan Traction Company and the Third Avenue Railroad Company have been fighting so long, was sold to the Third Avenue Railroad Company at public auction yesterday by Comptroller Fitch for \$2,000,000 and 85 per cent. of the gross receipts over and above the statutory amount of 3 per cent. of the gross receipts for the first year and 5 per cent. thereafter. But there is litigation ahead, and the sale may be upset.

The Third Avenue Company has had the advantage from the start, as it was the only bidder. The Metropolitan would consent to be on behalf of the city were it not that it wanted the route as they now stand.

From Kingsbridge road and West 102d street, along Kingsbridge road to and across the proposed new bridge over the Ship Canal, to and across the bridge over the Hudson River, to Broadway to the city line.

Also from West 102d street, along St. Nicholas avenue to Manhattan avenue, to West 118th st.

Also from Kingsbridge road along Riverside avenue to city line.

Also from Manhattan street along Eleventh avenue, to Boulevard, to Kingsbridge road, at or near 100th street.

The Third Avenue Company offered to pay a bonus of \$250,000 if it got these routes, and also to allow any other company that might successfully bid for the franchise the use of its tracks and cables on Manhattan and 125th streets, from St. Nicholas avenue to the Boulevard, for a dollar a year.

Before the sale yesterday Deputy Comptroller Fitch was served with three protests. Root & Clarke, for Thomas H. O'Connor, a taxpayer and citizen, served a protest against the sale on the grounds that the Third Avenue Railroad Company now has a cable railroad in operation in parts of the streets and avenues covered, and that any other successful bidder would be forced to use the Third Avenue's plant. This, it is alleged, would handicap any company bidding with a view of operating a street railway with a system other than cable. Root & Clarke also filed the protest of the Metropolitan Traction Company, which claims the franchise.

The plan of the Metropolitan Company, if it got the franchise, was to equip the road with underground trolley. The papers therefor allege prospective damages to the city's and the taxpayers' best interests by reason of the reduction of the value of the franchise to any bidder who would not accept the plan.

Mr. Edward Lauterbach, counsel for the Third Avenue Company, filed a protest against allowing the North End Railway Company to bid for the franchise, because it was organized only last week, with the sole view, it is alleged, of competing for the franchise, and must be incorporated at least three weeks before it can do business.

The sale, which had been set down for noon, was postponed to 4 o'clock on account of the absence of the Comptroller at a wedding, and in the interval the Union Railway Company of Huckleberry road, tried to enjoin the sale on the ground that it had a franchise for a street railway on north Broadway itself and holds a franchise for that route. Judge Lawrence refused to grant the injunction.

At 4 o'clock, when the sale began, there were present William C. Whitney, President Vreeland of the Metropolitan Traction Company; John H. Robinson, counsel for the Metropolitan Traction Company; President Albert J. Elias, Treasurer John Beaver, and Counsel Edward Lauterbach of the Third Avenue Company; Prof. Cullin, counsel for the Union Railway Company; and William F. Sheehan, counsel for the Southern Railway Company.

All the protests were put in, including one from the Union Railway Company, which was overruled. The bidding began at 2 per cent. of the gross receipts and advanced by steps of 1 per cent. until it reached 3 per cent. The Third Avenue Company, Mr. Lauterbach bid for \$250,000, and Mr. Whitney stood by.

Mr. Lauterbach began by offering 3 per cent. of the gross receipts, and then offered 3 1/2 per cent., adding that that bid and all others should be carried with them the \$250,000 bonus also. President Elias then offered 3 1/2 per cent., and Mr. Lauterbach added 3 3/4 per cent. From then on it was rapid work. As the price went up it was rapid work. As the price went up it was rapid work.

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SAVED HER CHILDREN FROM FIRE.

She Dropped All Five from the Window Into Their Father's Arms.

An alarm given in a room of Michael O'Connor's saloon at Fourth and Henderson streets, Jersey City, exploded at 11 P. M. yesterday, and flames and smoke quickly spread to the hallway and stairs, cutting off the tenants of the floors above.

The building was a four-story brick flat house, tenemented, and the fire broke out in the second floor, which was divided into compartments by fireproof doors. Each of the upper floors was divided into compartments by fireproof doors. Each of the upper floors was divided into compartments by fireproof doors.

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BEST & CO.

LITUPIN BAZAR.

All under one roof AND All for Children.

We do not believe that any one interested in clothing, either properly, who has once fairly realized the superiority of the Litupin Bazar, would be likely to go thereafter to a general store for anything in that line unless obliged to by the force of circumstances.

There is absolutely nothing to offset the unequalled advantages of our immense variety, including everything from hats to shoes, and low prices for strictly first class goods.

Boys' Suits, all wool, \$3.99 to \$6.00. Boys' Suits, all wool, \$3.99 to \$6.00. Boys' Suits, all wool, \$3.99 to \$6.00.

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A BIG BATTLE EXPECTED.

SPANISH AND REBEL FORCES CONCENTRATING ON SIGUENA.

Gen. Gomez Is Leading 4,000 Men to Join the Insurgents Already There—Gen. Martines Campos Will March at Once Upon Sigüenza—Four More Gunboats Arrive in Cuba—125,000 Spanish Soldiers on the Island—Irish Recruits for Rebels.

MADRID, Nov. 14.—A despatch from Cienfuegos, Cuba, to the Imperial says that Maximo Gomez has abandoned his position at Remedios and is leading an army of 4,000 men upon Sigüenza. He is accompanied by Gen. Maceo at the head of 1,800 mounted men.

The Correspondence's special despatch from Havana says that the insurgent General Rollof at the head of a band of rebels is at Sigüenza waiting the arrival of Gomez. According to this despatch Gen. Martines Campos will at once march upon Sigüenza, and an encounter is expected.

It is asserted that Gomez has changed his tactics in consequence of the action of the revolutionary assembly in New York urging the rebels in Cuba to fight a decisive battle in order to influence the United States to recognize the insurgents as belligerents.

A despatch to El Liberal from Havana says that Max Gomez has entered the province of Puerto Principe at the head of 3,000 men. These form the vanguard of the main rebel force under Gomez, who is now in Santa Clara.

A private telegram from Havana reports that Maximo Gomez, the rebel commander-in-chief, has, by a skillful movement, turned Captain-General Martines Campos's position in Santa Clara. It is supposed that Gomez's object is to penetrate the Matanzas district, destroy plantations, threaten Havana, and spread the rebellion to the west part of the island.

HAVANA, Nov. 14.—The British steamer Coteche has arrived here from Southampton, bringing four small gunboats. Four boats were sent from England and Spain to Cuba. Twelve more are expected from Spain and England, which, when they arrive, will make a total number of fifty-two gunboats in service for coast vigilance, together with seven cruisers.

The steamer Nov. 14.—The *London Standard* publishes an interview with the Spanish Ambassador here, in which he says the army in Cuba now numbers 125,000 men, and 25,000 reinforcements will be sent to the island in January. The Ambassador adds that the American Government is acting loyally toward Spain, but that a large number of Americans in private life who are connected with Cuba keep up an agitation against Spain.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 14.—The movement recently started in this city among Irish-Americans, looking to the formation of a company to aid the Cuban insurgents in their struggle for independence, has assumed definite shape. The Irish-American Cuban Volunteers, as the military organization is known, held an enthusiastic meeting yesterday.

The Committee Department reported every day in readiness, and the Transportation Committee reported that the arrangements for the movement of 100 to 200 volunteers to an Atlantic coast point were nearly completed.

From all over America have come letters of sympathy and financial aid, and the volunteers are Godspeed in the undertaking. Every Irish society of note in America has taken notice of the San Francisco movement.

WHERE'S THE LAURA? Her Captain, Samuel Hughes, Wanted for Violating Neutrality Law.

The little steamship *Laurada*, which sailed from this port just after daybreak Tuesday without clearance papers, was supposed to be somewhere near Philadelphia yesterday. The local authorities here propose to prosecute her Captain, Samuel Hughes, when they can find him. It is alleged that he has violated the neutrality laws.

On the 21st of October last the *Laurada* left this city for the West Indies. It was reported from Kingston, Jamaica, that her papers and appearance were not in accord. There, under the name of the *Laurada*, she was reported to have been carrying passengers, and the passengers carried previous to making the port of Kingston. She reported but a single passenger. At that time the *Laurada* was under charter to a West Indian firm doing business in this city and in the West Indies.

The clearance papers in question were in due form and order, as far as clearing from an American port was concerned. It is alleged, failed to report the Cuban Céspedes and his band of forty-five followers, with whom the *Laurada* was reported to have been carrying passengers, and which were very recent residents, and from which they could easily reach the mountains of the interior.

Agents and owners of the *Laurada* have disclaimed responsibility for the alleged violation of the neutrality laws. They say that they do not represent the owners, and the alleged owner in Philadelphia, J. D. Hart, stating that he is not her owner.

WANTS DAMAGES FROM SPAIN. Hotel Keeper Repko Asks for \$500,000 in Compensation of His Property.

DANBURY, Nov. 14.—Judge James E. Walsh is to file at the State Department in Washington a claim for \$500,000 damages against the Spanish Government, and will ask that it be recognized as a claim of a citizen of the United States. The claimant is John Repko, an Italian and a naturalized citizen of this country. He is the proprietor of Roma Grand Continental Hotel in Havana, one of the largest hotels in Cuba.